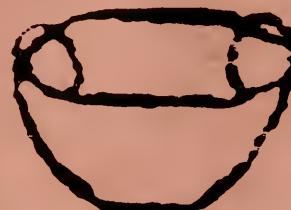


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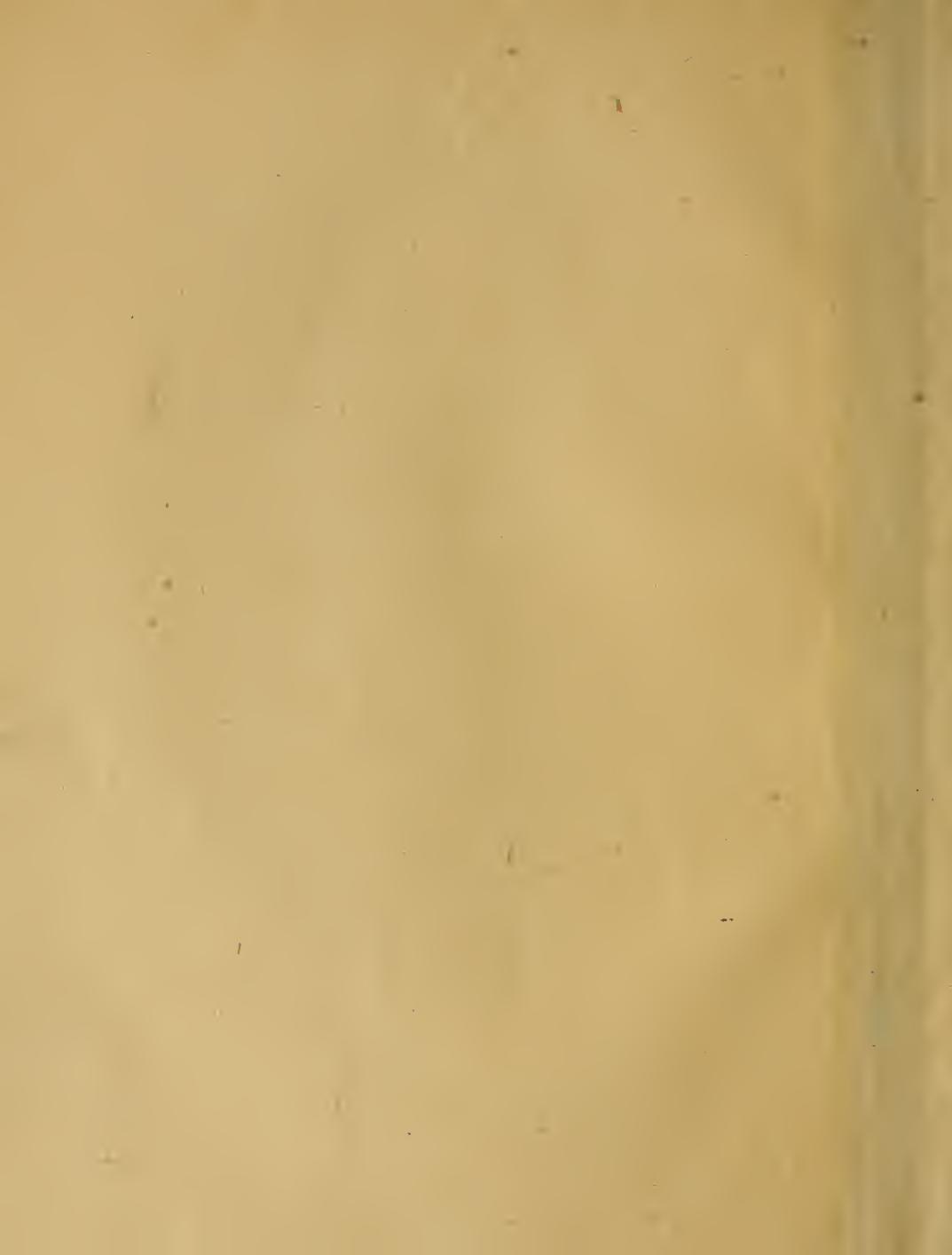
HOW TO MAKE  
PAPER MACHE  
BASKETS.



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HOW TO MAKE   
PAPER MACHE BASKETS.

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BY

*Hernan Klatt.*  
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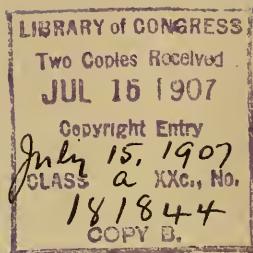
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## PREFACE.

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The present work hardly needs a preface. The object is to learn people to make paper mache baskets at home. The materials, and appliances used are few, and these can be obtained for a small sum. Making the paper mache is easily learned if you follow the directions, carefully, which are given in this book. I also give directions: How to take leaf photographs, also: How to collect turtle, and tortoise shells. The making of reed baskets has during the last few years attracted a great deal of attention, therefore I publish this book, thinking that making baskets of paper mache will also attract attention.

THE AUTHOR.



## HOW TO MAKE PAPER MACHE BASKETS.

*Never Despair, Try Again.*

• PART ONE •

he making of paper mache baskets is a very interesting art, for both boys, and girls. Older people also enjoy to make baskets. You can make the baskets, either for your own use, or else sell your ware to your friends at a good profit. Various pieces can be made such as round, square, oval, flat, May baskets, simple baskets, etc., Various books have been published during the last few years on Pyrography, Needle work etc., the purpose being to learn children to devote their knowledge to certain interesting arts. Making paper mache baskets, you will find to be an interesting art.

## How to make paper mache baskets.

### TOOLS REQUIRED.

The tools required are not many and not very expensive, enabling any boy or girl to buy them for a small sum. The first article or rather mold, you will need is a coffee cup or tea cup, round inside and about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. in diameter across the top. This will cost you about 10 or 15 cents at all stores. The next article you will need is a small postal scale weighing up to about 1 lb. This will cost you about \$1.00. Any other scale that weighs by oz. up to lbs. will answer the purpose very well. Next procure a large common table spoon, both would cost only a few cents. Procure a small glue pot which would cost only about 50 cents. A common quart tin can can be used, but a glue pot is preferable. You will also need a pater or a quart tin can and about 5 wooden butter dishes the kind which the stores give away with each pound of butter or lard. They are oval shaped and made of very thin wood. They can be obtained almost for nothing, at a butcher shop. You will also need a common pocket knife, having one blade, which can be obtained at a hardware store for about 25 cents. A paint brush, which would cost about 15 cents, and a (wood) flat file, about 6 in. in length

## *How to make paper mache baskets.*

which would cost about 10 cents. A rule about a foot long will also come handy. You will also need a 2 burner oil stove, if you have no other way to boil your glue, and paper pulp. You will also need a stick of wood about 7 in. long, perfectly round, and a little bit larger than an extra large pencil. With your knife, split stick length wise, in middle. The above tools are all that are required to make simple baskets.

**THE MATERIALS NEEDED.** Plaster paris, about 1 lb. price, 5 cents. Common wrapping paper, white, rather thin 1 sheet about 3 ft. by 2 ft. Glue, common cabinet maker's, price 5 cents. A large can of water, and 2 small cans of carriage mixed paint, brown, and green are very pretty. You will also need 5 cents worth of linseed oil, 5 cts. worth of gum shellac, and .05 worth of wood alcohol.

### **HOW TO**

**MAKE A SIMPLE BASKET.** Cut the wrapping paper in small pieces with the pocket knife, and put the pieces in the pot, or tin can and pour water on, and set on oil, or cook stove, and boil thoroughly (the smaller the bits of paper are, the finer the pulp becomes) for about 1 half hour, add water when it becomes low to prevent the paper from burning, stirring

## How to make paper mache baskets.

now, and then, and beating the paper very hard with a stick, so that it becomes very fine. (the finer the paper pulp is, the better work can be done.) When perfectly fine, and free from lumps, remove from stove, and let cool. Arrange your tools, and materials on work bench as follows: On one end of your bench have your tools. On other end of bench have your materials, and in middle of bench have your scale to weigh your materials. Set one butter dish in front of scale, this is your mixing pan. Have your butter dishes numbered from 1 to 5, with pen, and ink, on outside of dish. Put in your glue pot, or your quart tin can, nearly one oz. of dry glue, and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  full of water. Let glue soak in water about one hour, or until dissolved. Next set on stove, and stir constantly with a stick to prevent glue from burning if you use a tin can. If you use a glue pot so much stirring is not necessary.

Let the glue boil about ten minutes, then remove from fire.

Use the glue hot. For a basket, which fits in your coffee, or tea cup,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. in diameter across the top of cup, measure the following with your scale.

Plaster paris, dry, four oz., | av. |



Fig. 1

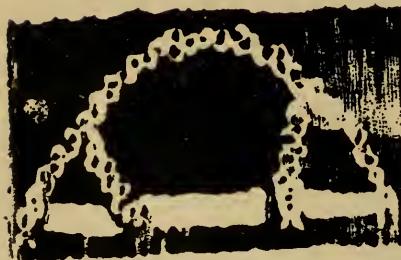
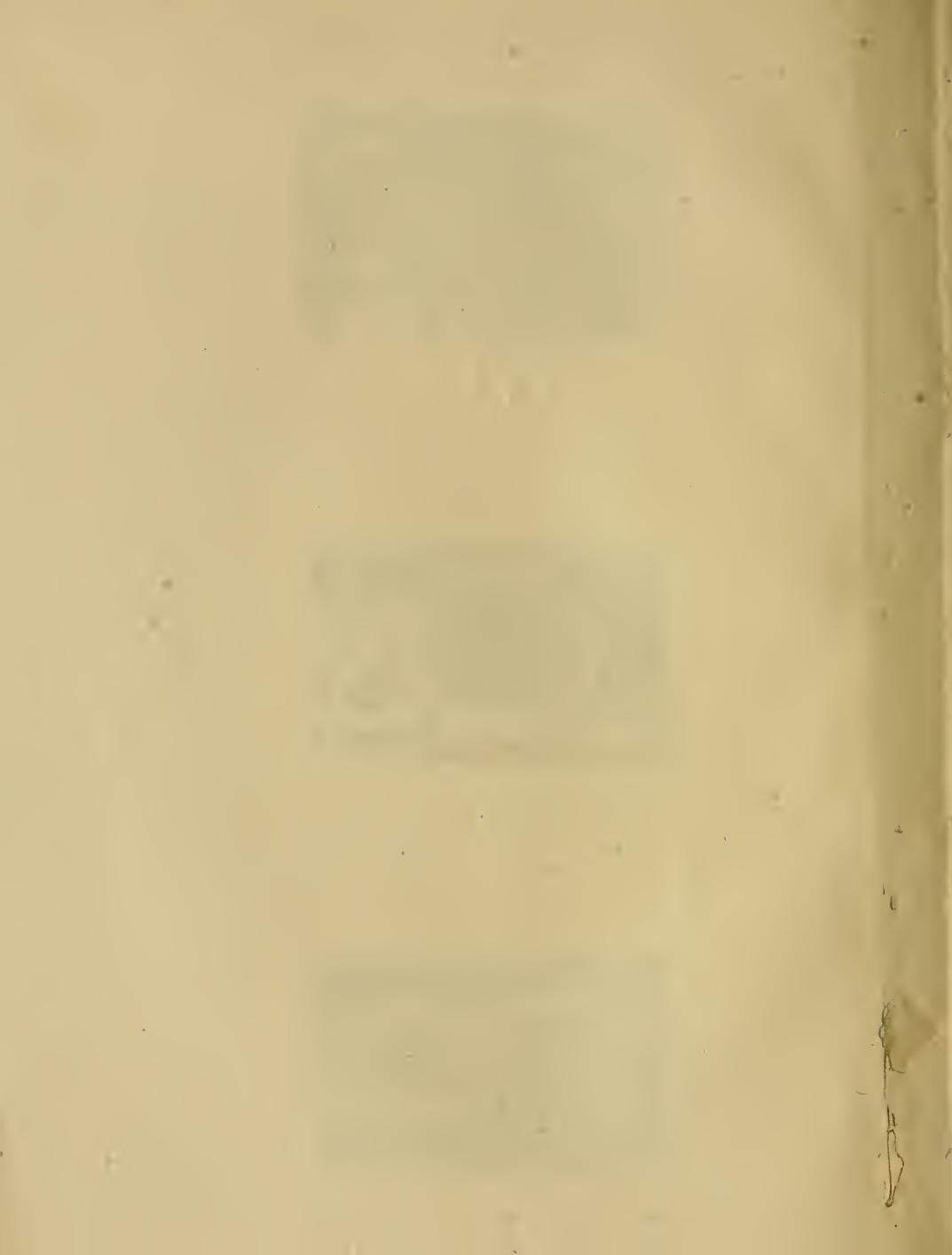


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Fig. 4



## How to make paper mache baskets.

Hot glue, enough until the mixture is about like butter. (which would be about six table spoons full)

Wet paper pulp, two oz., or one half oz. dry paper pulp, and one, and one half oz. water. Weigh the above with your scale using a differnt butter dish for each material. Having weighed all, put two oz. of plaster paris in your mixing pan.

Put all of the paper pulp in mixing pan also and add one, and one half table spoons full of hot glue. Knead, and mix the mixture thorough'y with your hands.

Next put in your pan the remainder of your plaster paris, and remainder of glue.

Knead it thoroughly, until it becomes soft like butter, free from any lumps. Follow the above directions carefully, and you can not fail. When done, all with butter dish

should weigh 8 oz. Fine paper mache should stick fast to the surface of a planed board when you rub a bit on it by firm pressure of the finger. When the paper mache is to lumpy to work well lay it upon a smooth board, and pound it up fine with a hammer. The paper mache should be used as soon as possible after it is made.

If you wish to keep it for a day, or longer, wrap it up in several thicknesses of wet



## How to make paper mache baskets.

room, not in the sun. To paint cup use about  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. shellac, and about a 2 oz. bottle of wood alcohol, the wood alcohol should be marked POISON, and kept out of children's way. Mix the shellac, and alcohol thoroughly, or until shellac is dissolved. Apply with a brush on basket, inside, and out about 4 coats. Next take your brown carriage paint, and paint 1 coat outside of, and handles of basket. When dry give 2 more coats. Next take your green carriage paint, and paint inside of basket also 3 coats. Fig. 1 shows a few of the many pretty pictures, which can be painted on paper mache baskets. Let each coat of paint dry before applying another.

Be sure, and make basket smooth, with your wood file, and knife, after it is dry, and before painting it. BEFORE YOU PAINT, READ THIS. Always remove all dust before painting. Stop up all holes, and cracks with paper mache. Don't fail to thoroughly stir every can with a bread paddle. Don't spread paint too thickly, brush it out well. Use pure linseed oil for thinning paint, turpentine can also be used. Use paint in natural thickness for second, and third coat work. You can use artist's oil-color paints, if you prefer to

## How to make paper mache baskets.

paint basket. When paint is dry, basket is finished. It is called a simple, or round basket, and can be used for a pin tray, ornament for bureau, to keep collar buttons in, jewelry, etc.

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### HOW TO MAKE A FLAT BASKET.

The making of a flat basket is exactly made as a simple basket, only you use a china plate, or a china saucer, for the mold, and the stick used for making the handles should be a little bit longer. Paint any color that you like.

### HOW TO MAKE A SQUARE BASKET.

The making of a square basket is made also as a simple basket, only you use a square wooden, or tin box, the sides about 1 inch high, or higher if you prefer. Next lay a narrow ribbon, or a thin strap in inside of box from 1 side to another, being well greased with tallow. Let stand until perfectly dry. Do not remove from mold in 3 days. When dry, take hold each end of ribbon, or strap, and pull basket gently from box. Smear up crack left by strap, or ribbon, with paper mache, using a knife.

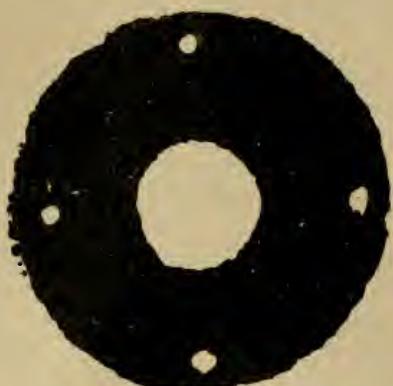


Fig. 9



Fig. 10

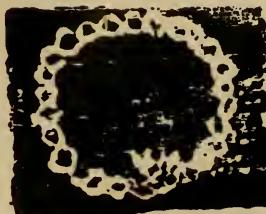


Fig. 11



## How to make paper mache baskets.

to apply same. When dry, make smooth, paint, and basket is finished. Long, or May baskets can be easily made by using a long, common tin can for the mold. Oval baskets can be made, by using a common china bowl, ordinary size, for the mold.

### A SUBSTITUTE FOR PAPER MACHE.

Simply use plaster paris, mixed with hot glue. This becomes very hard, and is not so hard to make as paper mache, and it can be used for many things, that paper mache is used for.

### DIFFERNT KINDS OF PRETTY BASKETS.

You can make many kinds of pretty baskets, by using differnt molds. Patty cake pans, assorted, and tin tart pans are good molds, to make small pretty baskets. The above can also be filled up solid with paper mache, and removed when dry, thus making very fine paper weights. Donut cutters, and card party cake cutters, [see illustration] make also good molds for paper weights. Animal cake cut'ers, assorted make good molds for paper mache animals. The above articles can be obtained, for a small sum at a reliable tin-ware dea'er. If you want to make the above, smear a



## *How to make paper mache baskets.*

which you desire. There are many colors of dyed raffia such as dark red, light red, pink, irish green, brown, yellow, black, etc. Reeds, only come in 1 color, white. Raffia and reeds can be obtained at a reliable seed store, or basket factory. All raffia should be soaked in water before using.

### **HANDLES, MADE OF RAFFIA, AND REEDS.**

Pretty handles can be made from raffia, and reeds, for paper mache baskets. Fig. 2, shows a handle made of 2 strands of raffia twisted together. Fig. 3, and 4, are handles made of reeds. Fig. 5, shows a handle made of 2 strands of raffia twisted together. (you can use more strands if you prefer) Fig. 6, and 7, are fancy knots made of raffia, and can be used for handles, etc. Fig. 10, shows a pretty knot, which can be used for handles, e.c. Fig. 11, shows a handle, made of 2 strands of raffia twisted together, and tied at the ends. Insert the above handles in top,of the sides, of paper mache baskets, when basket is yet wet.

### **HOW TO MAKE TOPS OF BASKETS, PRETTY.**

Fig. 8, shows a pretty way to decorate tops of baskets. The 4 upright lines represent 4 pieces of reeds, which should be

## How to make paper mache baskets.

inserted in top of basket when it is yet wet. The 3 lines across, represent 3 strands of raffia, which should be braided between the reeds, when basket is dry. Fig. 12, 13, and 14, show 3 differnt styles to decorate tops of sides of paper mache baskets. The heavy upright lines, shown in the illustrations, represent reeds, and the lines running across, represent raffia. Paint the reeds any color you like. For small baskets the reeds should extend about  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. above top of basket. For large waste paper baskets, the reeds should extend about 2 in. above top.

### COVERS, FOR PAPER MACHE BASKETS.

Covers are made as stated in making paper weights, out of a thick sheet of wet paper mache, only you use your knife to cut out the cover, the exact size to fit your basket. Fig. 9, shows a cover made of paper mache for a common basket, that has no handles. The large hole shown in the center can be cut in with a knife. The large hole is used for a handle, of cover and should be a little bit larger than your finger. The small holes shown, can be cut out with a no. 5, belt punch, which can be obtained at a reliable hard-ware store. Fig. 15, 16, 17,

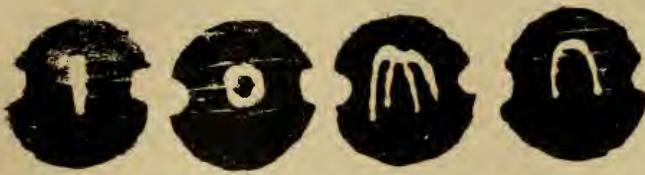
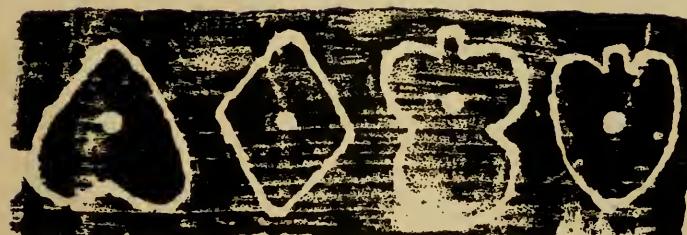


Fig. 15,

16,

17,

18

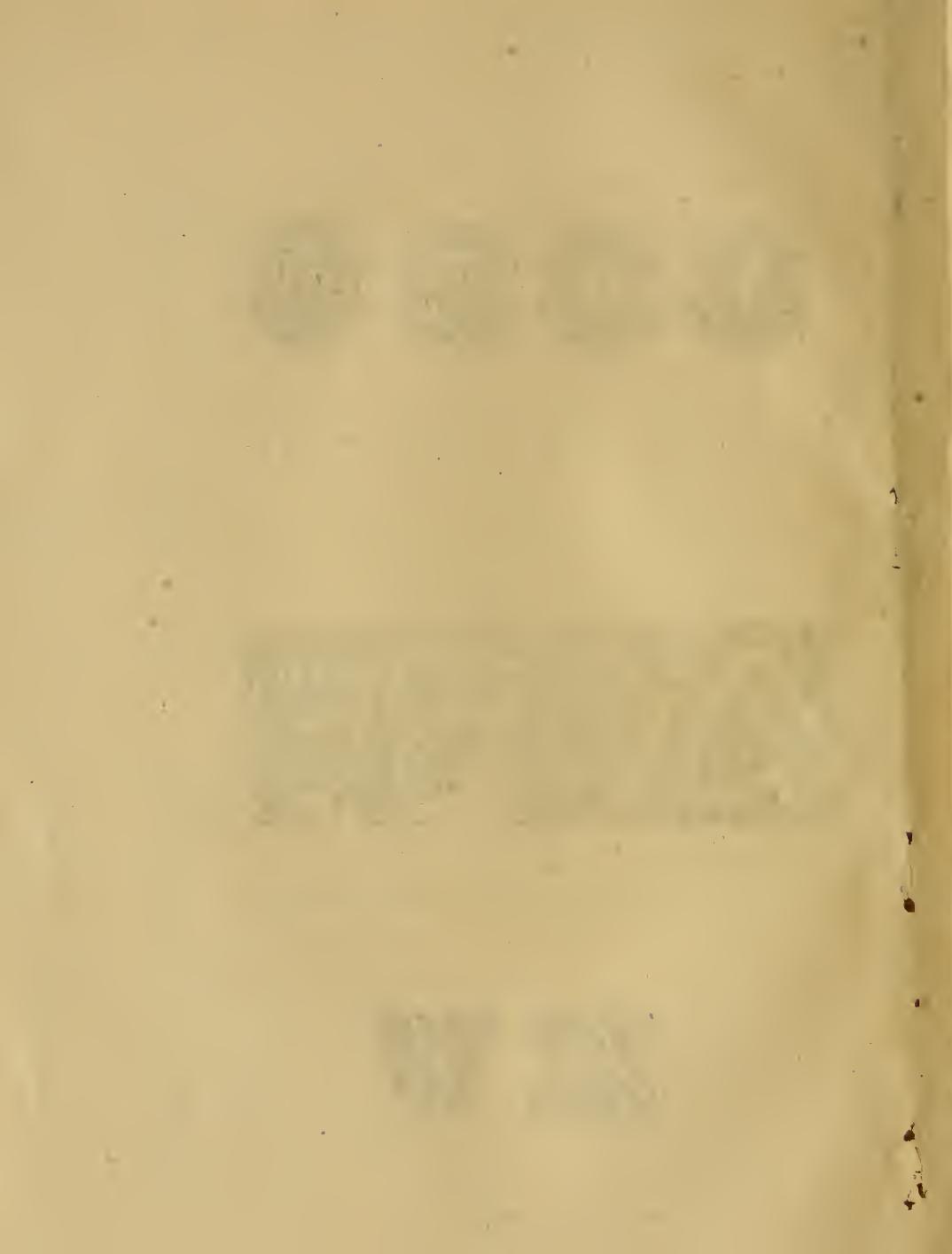


Out line of 4 card party cake cutters.

Fig. 19



Fig. 20   Fig. 21



## *How to make paper mache baskets.*

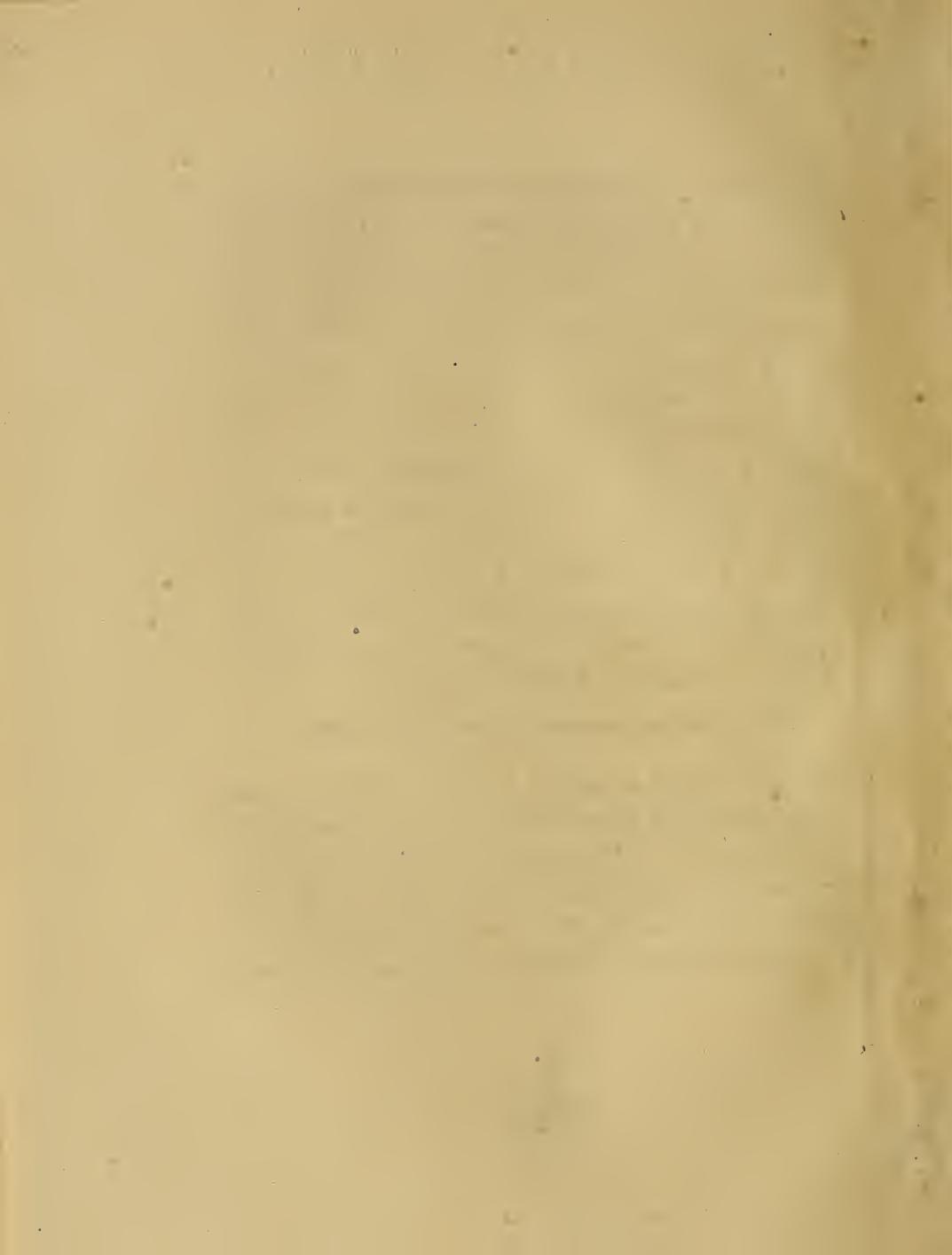
and 18, show 4 paper mache basket covers, for baskets that have handles. The lines shown in the middle of the covers, in the illustrations represent pieces of reeds, and are used for handles, of covers. Insert the pieces of reeds, when the cover is yet wet. Fig. 20, shows a paper mache basket cover for a square basket, with handles. Fig. 21, shows a cover for a fancy shape basket.

Make the above covers as stated in making covers for baskets, without handles, see Fig. 9. You can make a pretty cover, by using a common saucer for the mold, exact size as top of basket. When cover is finished, set on basket, bottom side up.

### **MAKE MONEY, MAKING BASKETS AT HOME.**

You can start a small basket factory, at home, and sell your ware to your friends at a good profit. The point to remember is: Follow the directions carefully, that are given in this book, and you cannot fail. You can charge what you like for the baskets.





## → MISCELLANEOUS. ←

You Learn Things By Doing Them.

### • PART TWO •

**H**ow to collect turtle, and tortoise shells. The shells of turtles, and tortoise are very nice for ornaments. If you want a tortoise shell you can easily catch the tortoise, in the summer time, in the country, because they are easily caught. About the best way to catch a turtle is to seine it. Put the turtle, or the tortoise either one you have in front of you on its back, and with a common garden rake strike the turtle, or the tortoise, with thine; of rake on carapex, being care-

## *Miscellaneous.*

ful not to cut the shell of the turtle, with the thines of the rake, where the heart is situated, a little ways above middle of carapex, below the neck. In a few minutes it will end all pain, do it quick because you must never bruise dumb animals. When it is beyond all pain, take a sharp pocket knife, and cut out all of the flesh, and bones, that has to come off. After you have done this, lay the shell for about 3 days on some out-shed, where the sun can have free access to it. Then cut out all of the dried flesh, which has remained after the first cutting. The shell is now cleaned. Smear the inside of the shell, nearly  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick with paper mache, with your pocket knife. If you prefer, you can use plaster paris mixed with water, applying it when it is about as thick as butter. Be sure, and make inside of shell smooth. Leave dry thoroughly, which will take about 10 days. When dry, paint the plaster paris, or paper mache some pretty color which you prefer. (red is a pretty color) Give the plaster paris, or the paper mache 2 or 3 coats of paint, leave the first coat dry before applying another. When the paint is thoroughly dry, scratch with a common nail, through the paint into the

## Miscellaneous.

plaster paris, or paper mache, first: The kind of turtle. Second: What date you killed the turtle. Third: At what place. That is all that is needed. If you don't want to hang it up in your cabinet, it is then complete. If you want to hang it up bore a small hole in front of shell, where the head was situated, when the turtle was alive. You can bore the hole, with a common brace, and bit. Put a small wire ring, through the hole, and then it is ready to hang up. The shell well repays the labor of cleaning, etc. because it looks very pretty in any cabinet.

### HOW TO TAKE LEAF PHOTOGRAPHS

A pretty amusement for both boys, and girls, is the taking of leaf photographs.

The process is: Obtain at your drug store an ounce of Bichromate of Potassium, in powder form. Put it into a pint bottle of water. When the powder becomes saturated—that is, the water is dissolved as much as it will—pour off some of the liquid into a common china dish; on this liquid float a piece of ordinary, white writing paper till it is thoroughly moistened by the liquid, then let it dry in the dark. The paper when dry, should be a bright yellow. The

## *Miscellaneous.*

bottle, containing the liquid should be marked, POISON, and kept out of harms way. On the paper lay your leaf, and under the paper lay a piece of black soft cloth and a few sheets of paper. Next obtain from a reliable jewelry store a photographer's printing frame, size 4 by 5 in. which would cost about 20 cents. Next put your leaf, cloth, and sheets of paper in printing frame, so the leaf faces the glass of frame, and the yellow sheet of paper next, and the black cloth next, and a few sheets of paper under all. Tighten the springs in back of printing frame, and expose to a bright sun, so that the rays fall on it perpend'eular. In a short time it will turn brown; but it requires from 1 to several hours to produce a perfect print. When the picture is dark enough, take it from the frame, and put it into clear water, which must be changed every few minutes until the yellow part becomes white. Follow the above directions carefully, and you cannot fail.

### **HOW TO MAKE ARTIFICIAL MARBLE.**

**A**rtificial marble makes good paper weights etc. Mix plaster paris, with alum, bake it in an oven, and then grind it to a powder. In using, mix with water.



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